

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OPIC-03 SAM-01 /069 W
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R 301510Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2214

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1903

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, AO

SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF UNITA OFFICIAL ON ANGOLAN SITUATION

1. UNITA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY JORGE SANGUMBA ON
SEPT 29 MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO EMBOFFS:

A. OAU MEDIATION EFFORTS. OAU COMMITTEE OF NINE HAS
INVITED THREE ANGOLAN LEADERS TO KAMPALA TO TRY
FIND NEW FORMULA FOR ENDING CIVIL WAR. JONAS SAVIMBI
PREPARED GO TO KAMPALA BUT ONLY IF BOTH NETO AND ROBERTO
GO ALSO. SAVIMBI TIRING OF HIS ROLE AS MEDIATOR AND
BEING ONLY ONE OF THREE WHO WILL SHOW UP FOR MEETINGS,
AS WAS CASE SEPT 13 IN LUSAKA. SANGUMBA DOUBTED THAT
EITHER ROBERTO OR NETO WOULD AGREE GO KAMPALA. OAU
EFFORT THEREFORE EXPECTED DIE ABORNING.

B. MILITARY SITUATION. SANGUMBA SAID LUSO NOW BACK IN UNITA
HANDS. IN VERY SHORT TIME HE EXPECTED MPLA WOULD LOSE ONE OF
PORTS IT NOW OCCUPIES, "EITHER MOCAMEDES OR LOBITO." FOR
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MOMENT HOWEVER THERE IS LULL IN FIGHTING.

C. UNITA STRATEGY. UNITA CONCERN IS TO NOT ONLY PREVENT FURTHER MPLA INROADS ON ITS TERRITORIES BUT TO SEIZE SEVERAL POPULATION CENTERS NOW IN MPLA HANDS. PURPOSE IS TO PREVENT MPLA FROM CLAIMING ON NOV 11 THAT IT HOLDS PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN EACH DISTRICT AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS IN CONTROL OF ANGOLA.

D. UNITA/FNLA COOPERATION. SOME IN UNITA HAVE BEEN ADVOCATING FORMATION OF JOINT UNITA/FNLA PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT TO COUNTER MPLA ASSERTIONS THAT IT NOW CONTROLS TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT MACHINERY IN DEFAULT OF RETURN OF FORMER UNITA AND FNLA OFFICIALS. SANGUMBA APPEARED SKEPTICAL PRACTICALITY OF THIS STEP, NOTING THAT WIDE SEPARATION BETWEEN MAIN FIGHTING FORCES AND POLITICAL HEADQUARTERS OF TWO MOVEMENTS WOULD MAKE COORDINATION DIFFICULT. HOWEVER, EXISTENCE OF UNITA/FNLA PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD OFFER OPTION TO THOSE AFRICAN STATES LIKE ZAMBIA WHICH WOULD BE RELUCTANT RECOGNIZE MPLA CLAIM TO RULE ANGOLA AFTER NOVEMBER 11.

E. PORTUGUESE. SANGUMBA, NOTING PORTUGUESE PLAN WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM NOVA LISBOA BY OCTOBER 6, SAID UNITA WILL PERMIT PORTUGUESE WITHDRAW BY AIR BUT NOT BY LAND TAKING WITH THEM HEAVY ARMS AND EQUIPMENT. ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS PORTUGUESE WHILE WITHDRAWING HAD TURNED OVER HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO MPLA OR HAD ALLOWED IT FALL INTO THEIR HANDS. HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES MUST BE LEFT IN NOVA LISBOA WHILE PORTUGUESE AND UNITA NEGOTIATE OVER ITS EVENTUAL DISPOSITION.

2. SANGUMBA VISITED EMBASSY TO OBTAIN VISA FOR TRAVEL TO UNGA. HE THUS JOINS JOSE N'DELE AND TONY FERNANDES OF UNITA WHO WERE PLANNING TRAVEL TO NEW YORK IN MID-SEPTEMBER (LUSAKA 1758). WILKOWSKI

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